

Elimination of Pricing on End Product Data Schedules
and Summary End Product Data Schedule

PURPOSE:

Informing sponsors of the phase-in procedure which eliminates all pricing information on the End Product Data Schedules

SCOPE:

Food Distribution Program Recipient Agencies engaged in processing USDA commodities.

DESCRIPTION:

The American Commodity Distribution Association Processing Committee recommended that the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) remove all pricing information from the End Product Data Schedule (EPDS). FNS determined that it is in the best interest of the commodity processing program to eliminate the pricing information, except the commodity value, from the EPDS and the Summary End Product Data Schedule (SEPDS).

State and recipient agencies are expected to follow federal, State, and/or local procurement rules for obtaining processed end products. No procurement or bidding of processed end products occurs at the federal level with the National Master Processing Agreement (NMPA). The purchasing agency, which may be either the State or the recipient agency, continues to be responsible for competitive purchase of commodity processed products or processing services.

USDA is implementing a phase-in of National Master Processing Agreements (NMPA) for school year 2005-2006, which will eliminate the End Product Data Schedule from public circulation. Relevant end product data will be listed on a Summary End Product Data Schedule. The National Master Processing Agreements is a permanent agreement with processors intended to streamline and reduce paperwork for States and processors and make processing more accessible to school districts.

State agencies will be able to take advantage of USDA approval of End Product Data Schedules and Summary End Product Data Schedules, whether they can participate in the National Master Processing Agreement this year or not. The terms EPDS and SEPDS may be used interchangeably in procurement documents, since the EPDS will no longer be circulated. For example, if the procuring agency requires an EPDS to be submitted with bid prices, a processor can substitute a Summary End Product Schedule in place of the End Product Data Schedule.

For the purposes of the National Master Processing Agreement demonstration, USDA will utilize its waiver authority at 7 CFR 250.30(t) to waive the following program regulations:

- 250.30(c)(4)(ii) only the portion which states “...and any pricing information provided by the processor, in addition to that required in paragraph (c)(4)(iii) of this section, as requested by the contracting agency and a thorough explanation of what this additional pricing information represents.”
- 250.30(c)(4)(iii) only the portion which states “...where processing is to be performed only on a fee-for-service basis as defined in Section 250.3, the fee-for-service.”
- 250.30(c)(4)(xvii) which states “A provision that the processor shall provide pricing information summaries as required in paragraphs (d)(3) and (e)(2)...”
- 250.30(d)(3) and 250.30(e)(2) which state “Processors shall provide pricing information summaries to contracting agencies and contracting agencies shall provide this information to recipient agencies as soon as possible after contract approval. If this pricing information changes during the contract period, processors shall provide updated pricing information to eligible recipient agencies.”

States that require pricing information may request it from the processor.

Source:

USDA, Food Distribution policy, dated November 2004